



YORK UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Inventory of the
World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre fonds**

Inventory #F0276

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F0276 - World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre fonds

Fonds/Collection Number: F0276

Title: World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre fonds

Dates: 1977-1999

Extent: 9.55 m of textual records
243 photographs : b&w and col.

**Biographical Sketch/
Administrative History:** The World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre (WECT) series was the largest, international co-operative undertaking (1985-2001) in the history of world theatre. The WECT project was initiated by the International Theatre Institute, the International Federation for Theatre Research, the International Association of Libraries and Museums of the Performing Arts, and the International Association of Theatre Critics with the support of UNESCO and UNESCO World Decade for Cultural Development. Under the supervision of series executive editor Professor Don Rubin, the project was based in the Theatre Department at York University in Toronto, Canada. An international executive board and a board of directors, based in Toronto, governed the WECT project. The executive editor and editorial boards for each volume supervised the creation of each volume. Actor James Earl Jones served as the project's spokesperson. The WECT's six volumes record and analyse world theatre in some 160 countries since 1945. Written by leading scholars, critics and theatre practitioners and edited by authorities in each region, WECT explores through text and illustration the relationship between each national theatre community and the unique society from which it springs. Its coverage includes socio-political and historical backgrounds, playwriting, music theatre, dance theatre, theatre for young people, theatre design, architecture and technological development, and criticism and scholarship.

Scope and Content: Fonds consists of records documenting the activities of the WECT project. Fonds is arranged in the following series:

S00238	National Articles
S00239	Editorial Boards and Executive Editor
S00240	International Executive Board and Board of Directors
S00241	Fundraising
S00242	Business and Accounting
S00243	Marketing and Public Relations

Custodial History: The records in accession 2003-031 were in the custody of Don Rubin in the Theatre Department at York University from 1985-2003 before they were transferred to Archives & Special Collections.

**Restrictions on
Access and Use:** No restrictions on access.

Finding Aid: Series-level descriptions with corresponding file lists are complete at this time. Individual accession file lists are available separately; see accruals note.

URL of Finding Aid: <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000276.htm>

Accruals: The fonds comprises the following accessions: 2003-031. Further accruals may be expected.

**Immediate source of
acquisition:** Donated by Don Rubin in 2003.

Provenance Access Points: Rubin, Don, 1943-
World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre (Project).